

Managed Risk Medical Insurance Board (MRMIB)

Healthy Kids Buy-In Update

California Children's Services (CCS) Issue Steps Taken To-Date

Background

Chapter 80, Statutes of 2005 (AB 131) authorized MRMIB to assess the feasibility and to establish a County Buy-In Program to assist in the development of local Children's Health Initiatives (CHI), also known as local Healthy Kids Programs (HK). Beginning in July 2005 staff developed an issue paper on program design issues related to the buy-in program, conducted a public meeting on August 25, 2005 and solicited written public feedback with a September 6, 2005 deadline. On September 28, 2005 staff presented its recommendations on the program design for the Buy-In Program to the Board. The Board directed staff to proceed with the program development.

One outstanding issue raised by some Healthy Families Program (HFP) plans concerns CCS coverage for higher income HK subscribers who are not financially eligible for CCS coverage. While MRMIB staff has not been able to identify any such cases occurring in any of the existing HK programs, the issue is a potential barrier to implementing the Buy-In Program.

Since there is little information available on this CCS issue, MRMIB partnered with The California Endowment and PriceWaterhouseCoopers (PWC) to conduct a risk assessment of the potential risk to plan partners where CCS coverage is unavailable for higher income subscribers in HK programs.

Steps Taken To-Date

October 2005

- Convened work group to develop proposed approach for CCS risk assessment
- Finalized approach for CCS risk assessment including: analysis of risk, expected costs for CCS eligible HK enrollees, identify options for understanding and addressing the associated risk.

November 2005

- Identified participating plans in both HFP and HK that would be good options for providing data on their subscriber experiences in both programs as it relates to CCS coverage (HF-3 plans and HK-2 plans).
- Initiated discussions with participating plans to seek their participation in the study.

December 2005

- Finalized arrangements for plan participation in the study.
- Finalized data requirements and format for plan data submissions.

January 2006

- Followed-up with participating plans on data request and clarify any additional questions.
- Received participating plan data submissions and reviewed for required format. (HFP-2 plans and HK-2 plans)
- Followed-up with plans for resubmission of plan data in required format.
- Plan data forwarded to PWC for consolidation and preparation for submission to DHS.

February 2006

- Provided DHS with consolidated plan data for match against the claims paid data and data extraction.
- Received results of DHS data extraction and forwarded to PWC for review; had a concern about low match rate.
- Convened work group conference call to discuss low match rate; forwarded file to DHS-CCS program to verify CCS eligibility of plan data submission.

March 2006

- Received plan data after CCS eligibility extraction from DHS; found that some subscribers were not actually enrolled in CCS but rather just were HK subscribers referred to CCS.
- Plan data file including CCS eligibility extraction forwarded again to DHS for matching claims paid data again; we will see if this improves match rate.

Next Steps

1. MRMIB is awaiting the returned plan data file from DHS with the reassessed claims data extraction. The plan data file is expected within two weeks.
2. MRMIB will forward results of DHS claims data extraction to PWC for review and analysis.
3. PWC will assess the plan data and conduct data analysis to complete the CCS risk assessment study. Once PWC receives the file they will provide MRMIB an estimate of when the analysis and report will be completed.
4. Upon completion of the study, MRMIB will present the final report to the Board.